アリキーノ
ALICHINO
1

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第一章 誘う者（アリキーノ）

Timidity together with [illegible]. Someone said they were that sort of creature...
KIND.. AND AT THE SAME TIME, CRUEL.
ALTHOUGH I CAN NO LONGER REMEMBER WHO WAS SAYING IT...

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ARTIFICIAL, PERHAPS?
OR IS IT...
IS THAT PRETTY FACE ORIGINAL?

Edited by ZlleH. from #MangaProject on irc LinkIRC net

ALICHINO ...

AN ILLUSION THAT CAN GRANT ANY WISH. I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR IT FOR A LONG TIME.

バサッ
...IS IT DIFFERENT FROM THE FACE I ALWAYS MAKE?
YES, I CAN TELL IMMEDIATELY. FOR THE TIME BEING, WOULD YOU LIKE SOME TEA?
WELCOME HOME, TSUGIRI IS SOMETHING WRONG?
YOU'RE MAKING A SULLEN-LOOKING FACE
YOU ARE ALSO WELCOME TO SOME.

ALICHINO

ENJU
YES?
I MET A GIRL LOOKING FOR ALICHINO THIS MORNING
AGAIN?
WELL, ONCE
THERE WAS A TIME WHEN THERE WERE SUCH THINGS AS "ALICHINO HUNTS."
IN...
THE WORLD AT ANY GIVEN TIME, PEOPLE LOOK FOR ALICHINO IN ORDER TO HAVE THEIR PERSONAL WISHES GRANTED.
IF WISHES COULD BE GRANTED, NO ONE WOULD SUFFER.
THOSE WHO SEEK ALICHINO ALL SAY SIMILAR THINGS

They possess many different forms, given their incomparably exquisite beauty.
SO WHITE AS TO BE TRANSPARENT, THAT UNDEFILABLE FORM IS...
DOD DOD DOD
Fools, all of them.
SAID TO BE LIKE THAT OF AN ANGEL ..
LIAR

YOU KNOW ABOUT ALICHINO AFTER ALL!
EVEN THOUGH JUST NOW YOU SAID YOU DIDN'T WHY'D YOU DO THAT?

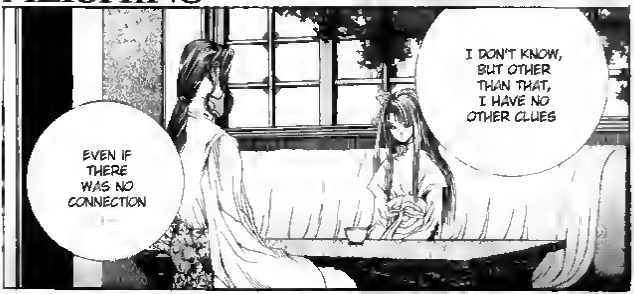
Scanned by Team Iscariote, from #iscariote on irc.kewl.org

YOUNG LADY...
TSUGIRI, WOULD THIS BE THE PERSON YOU WERE JUST SPEAKING OF?
IF IT'S ALL RIGHT, WOULD YOU DO ME THE FAVOR OF LETTING ME HEAR YOUR STORY?
I...
JUST WANT TO SAVE MY OLDER BROTHER.

FOR MANY DAYS HE HADN'T COME HOME. AND WHEN I FINALLY FOUND HIM, HE LOOKED LIKE HE WAS DEAD.
HE TOLD ME THAT HE "FOUND AN ALICHINO," AND THEN LEFT...
THE REASON ONICHAN'S BEHAVIOR HAD GOTTEN STRANGE
AS FOR THAT...
WE'VE BEEN TO ALL OF THEM AS FAR AS I KNOW.
HAVE YOU GONE TO A CLINIC?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE CAUSE WAS OR WHAT SORT OF CIRCUMSTANCES THERE WERE, BUT...
I'M CERTAIN IT'S NOT NORMAL...
BUT NO MATTER WHICH DOCTOR, IT WAS NO GOOD!

Translated by jenn@curiouser.nu from www.curiouser.nu

IT'S LIKE HIS SOUL IS MISSING.
BECAUSE
IT'S SO STRANGE
...DO YOU THINK ALICHINO AND YOUR BROTHER'S CONDITION ARE SOME-HOW CONNECTED?



They might be able to help Onii-chan.

IF ALICHINO ARE AS THEY ARE REPUTED TO BE CREATURES OF BEAUTIFUL PURITY...

IF THEY ARE ABLE TO GRANT WISHES...

MangaProject.cjb.net & iscariote.org

NOT FOR YOURSELF?
YOU'RE KIND OF AGGRAVATING, YOU KNOW THAT?
ARE THOSE WORDS YOU SAY TO SOMEONE IN TROUBLE?
BEFORE, YOU KNEW AND YOU SAID YOU DIDN'T, SO QUIT GETTING IN MY WAY.
BECAUSE I WILL FIND AN "ALICHINO".

THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS AN "ALICHINO"
SOMETHING THAT CONVENIENT.
AGAIN WITH THAT ATTITUDE
IF YOU HAVE THE TIME TO LOOK FOR SOMETHING, LIKE THAT, WHY DON'T YOU TRY SPENDING SOME TIME NEAR YOUR BROTHER?
IT SEEMS THE ONLY PRETTY THING ABOUT YOU IS YOUR LOOKS
I
FRANKLY WOULDN'T MISTAKE YOU FOR AN ALICHINO NOW

TSUGIRI.
SLAM

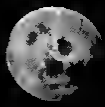
WHAT IS IT ...?
WILL YOU NOT REST YET?
HE STILL HASN'T COME HOME.
#1
SAME GOES FOR YOU ENJU.
HEY, ENJU DO YOU THINK IT'S OKAY FOR US TO JUST DO NOTHING LIKE THIS?
WHAT'S WRONG, ALL OF A SUDDEN ?
IT'S NOT SUDDEN.
IT'S SOMETHING I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT FOR A VERY LONG TIME

TSUGIRI, I WAS THINKING THAT SOMEDAY, YOU WOULD BEGIN TO SAY THINGS LIKE THAT. BUT NOW IS NOT YET THE TIME TO PUT SUCH IDEAS INTO ACTION.
SO YOU'RE SAYING THAT UNTIL THEN, WE SHOULD JUST PRETEND WE HAVEN'T SEEN THINGS? LIKE WHEN THE GIRL CAME TODAY.
THAT'S RIGHT.
IN HER BROTHER'S CASE EVEN IF IT IS HURTFUL TO THAT YOUNG LADY NOTHING CAN BE DONE
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? LIVING THINGS WILL DIE ANYWAY YOU KNOW?

YOU ARE ONE TO TALK.
I WONDER IF SHE'S SOME SORT OF DUNCE?
DESPITE THAT, THAT GIRL IS DESPERATELY MAKING A FUTILE EFFORT
SHE LOOKS FRESH AND DELICIOUS...
I DON'T HAVE AN INTEREST IN GIRLS PRIMARILY. BUT ONCE IN A WHILE THAT SORT OF THING IS ALL RIGHT TOO.
STOP IT!
PERHAPS I SHOULD HUNT HER, WHILE I'M AT IT.

I'LL TELL YOU ONE THING...
I DON'T FIND YOU OR YOUR COMRADES TO MY LIKING.

OH, WHAT A SCARY FACE!
ISN'T IT OBVIOUS I WAS JOKING?
FLAP
FLAP
BUT, I LIKE THAT FACE ON YOU THE MOST...



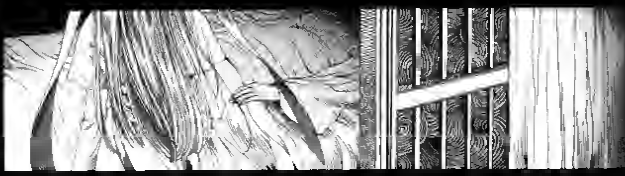
I KNEW THAT MUCH FROM THE TIME WE PICKED YOU UP.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING? SAYING THAT NOW LIKE SOME SORT OF HYPOCRITE

YOU...

"ALICHINO".

....



NO MATTER WHAT YOU SAY, I WON'T STOP HUNTING.

BECAUSE IT'S THE ONE THING I ENJOY..

WHAT WILL YOU DO, TSUGIRI?

LOOK...!
JUST NOW, ONE MORE HAS DIED.

EYES COMICS
アリキーノ
ALICHINO
1
珠黎こうゆ

抵抗しがたい見せかけの輝き、
心の奥で密やかに君臨する「絆う者」
生を悲しむのか、死を笑うのか、それとも…。
彼は杖を持ち、人から離れ虚ろな死へと、時を待つ。

9784834261011

1929979006198

ISBN4-8342-6101-8

C9979 ¥619E

発行ホーム社　発売集英社
定価本体619円+税

雑誌 41430−01

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第二章 死

If only for a single step...

I must've listened to their voices.

Because ...

Those who make the mistake of stepping forward --

have, with that...

Edited by ZlleH, from #MangaProject on irc LinkIRC net

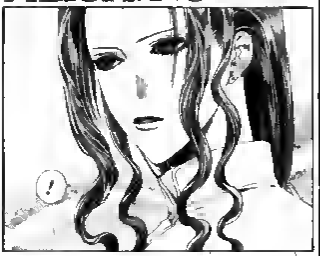
MangaProject cjb net
www iscariote org

SLITHER

SLITHER

Translated by Jennifer Lillie

YOU...!
IT ISN'T ME..
AND WHEN A HEART DESIRES AID, IT IS A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY FOR US
I SAID IT BEFORE, DIDN'T I? THAT THE CRY OF A HEART DRAWS ALICHINO TO IT.
NO, AN ALICHINO HAS FOUND HER.
IT'S UNFORTUNATE, BUT...
IN THIS SITUATION, IT'S CERTAIN SHE WILL BE HUNTED.
THE ONE WHOSE EYE WAS CAUGHT BY THAT GIRL IS A DIFFERENT ALICHINO
TSUGIRI...


!

WAIT
IF WE DON'T GO AND SEE, WE WON'T KNOW

EVEN IF YOU STOP ME I'M GOING

MAKE IT IN TIME?
WILL WE STILL ..

RUSTLE
TSUGIRI I HAVE JUST ONE FAVOR TO ASK
TAKE THIS
THE NIGHT CAN GET CHILLY
PLEASE, JUST DON'T DO ANYTHING RECKLESS
AS USUAL
...I UNDER-STAND.
YOU'RE EASY ON HIM, AREN'T YOU ENJU?
HERE WE GO
I BE-SEECH YOU TO BE CARE-FUL AS WELL...
I'LL BE FINE

THAT'S WHY I'M HERE
YOU'RE ENJOYING THIS SITUATION, AREN'T YOU?
OH, YOU CAN TELL?
FLAP

.. WHY
ARE YOU . SO SAD .?
WHAT IS YOUR WISH...?

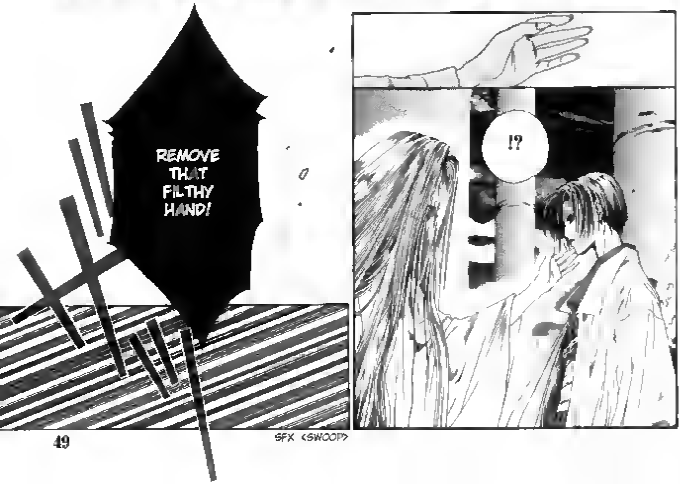
YOU
SHIMMER
SHIMMER SHIMMER
WISHED FOR ME...
WHO ARE YOU...?

FOR THAT REASON
I CAME HERE
BRUSH
BRUSH
HAS DIED !
BE-CAUSE
ONICHAN
IT'S TOO LATE

THEN IT WOULD BE GOOD TO BLOW A NEW BREATH OF LIFE INTO HIM.
I... ALONE
I CAN HEAR YOUR WISH...
AND WHAT DO YOU FEEL LIKE TAKING AS COMPENSATION?

THIS IS DISRE-SPECTFUL
TAKE?
IT WOULD ONLY BE RECEIVING COMPEN-SATION EQUAL TO THE WISH ...
THAT IS WHAT THIS GIRL IS ALSO WISHING FOR.
DON'T GET IN THE WAY
HOW DISGUSTING

SOME-
THING
THAT IS
EQUAL
TO A
LIFE...
!?
WHAT IS THIS SENSATION...?
IS A
LIFE,
IS IT
NOT?
SURELY
NOT...
YOU...


REMOVE
THAT
FILTHY
HAND!
!?
SFX <SWOOP>

YOU BITCH...!
WELL, WELL FEEL LIKE FIGHTING?
BECAUSE WE'RE THE SAME KIND, WE'RE FRIENDS ♡
DOESN'T NECESSARILY FOLLOW DOES IT?

OH, WELL
HOW-EVER
IF IT'S A LIFE OF THIS DE-GREE, THERE ARE COUNT-LESS OTHERS THAT WILL COME INTO MY POSSESSION
——
EVEN WHEN THERE IS ALREADY UN-MISTAKABLE EVIDENCE OF THE DIFFERENCE OF OUR POWERS?
INTE-RESTING
I HAVE FOUND SOME-THING
HOOOOOOOO
HOOOOOOOO

SO I SAID THEY DON'T EXIST.
ALICHINO LIKE THE ONE YOU WISHED FOR
EVERYONE INSIDE OF THEMSELVES
MAKES UP AN ALICHINO TO SUIT THEIR CONVENIENCE.
IS THAT ...
WHAT YOU THOUGHT I WOULD SAY?
THANKS FOR HELPING ME.

Scanned by Team Iscariote, from #iscariote on irc.kewl.org

10
DON'T DO THINGS UNASKED ...
YOU FOOL!!
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT HAPPENS TO SOME-ONE LIKE ME!
YOU'RE ...
JUST AFRAID OF BEING ALONE RIGHT?
UN-ASKED? IF I HAD LEFT THINGS THE WAY THEY WERE, DO YOU KNOW WHAT WOULD HAVE HAPPENED ...?
THERE'S NO ONE WHO SACRIFICES THEMSELVES ONLY FOR THE SAKE OF SOMEONE ELSE.
EVEN IF IT SEEMS IT'S FOR SOMEONE ELSE...AT FIRST GLANCE, IN THE END IT'S FOR THEIR OWN SAKE.

I HATE THE THOUGHT OF BEING ALONE, AND I HATE HAVING THOUGHTS LIKE THIS!
BEING ABANDONED AND LIVING IS FAR MORE PAINFUL THAN DYING.
YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND ANYTHING, SO DON'T SAY THINGS ARE YOUR WAY.
I KNOW ...!
SO, NEXT YOU'LL MAKE YOUR BROTHER HAVE THE SAME THOUGHTS?
I CAN'T THINK THAT HE WANTS TO LIVE SO MUCH, HE WOULD CONSIDER EXCHANGING THE LIFE OF HIS LITTLE SISTER FOR IT.
I KNOW THAT!
IT'S TRUE
NIISAN WOULD NOT WISH FOR SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
AFTER ALL, NIISAN ..
NOTE <NIISAN = MORE RESPECTFUL VERSION OF "NIICHAN">

FROM THE START ...
I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN ...
...HAD SUCH A PEACEFUL FACE WHEN HE DIED ...!
EVEN THOUGH ALICHINO CAN CALL OUT TO SOMEONE THEY DON'T HAVE THE POWER TO FORCE SOMEONE
SO IF YOU'RE GOING TO BLAME SOMEONE IT'S NOT
BUT THE SOULS OF THE WEAK ONES AMONGST YOU WHO MAKE THE MISTAKE OF ACCEPTING OUR LURES WHO SHOULD BE BLAMED

AND EVEN THOUGH ...
WE MUST TAKE SOMETHING AS COMPENSATION, THAT DOESN'T MEAN THAT ALL HUMANS BECOME VICTIMS.
DESPITE THAT, THERE ARE HUMANS WHO GAIN HAPPINESS.
"HE HAD SUCH A PEACEFUL FACE WHEN HE DIED ..."
TO THAT GIRL'S BROTHER
WITHOUT A DOUBT...
I WONDER WHAT HER BROTHER WISHED FOR?
ALICHINO WERE ANGELS.
YOU WANT TO KNOW? IT'S OKAY FOR ME TO TELL YOU
IN EXCHANGE ...
NEVERMIND THEN

WHAT'S WITH THAT ATTITUDE? NOT CUTE
IT'S THAT ASPECT OF YOU THAT I PARTICULARLY DISLIKE
OH?
I LIKE YOU RELATIVELY? WELL!
DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S AN HONOR YOU SHOULD BE THANKFUL FOR?
AFTER ALL, HUMANS I LIKE ARE RARE ENOUGH.

GOING HOME, HUH?

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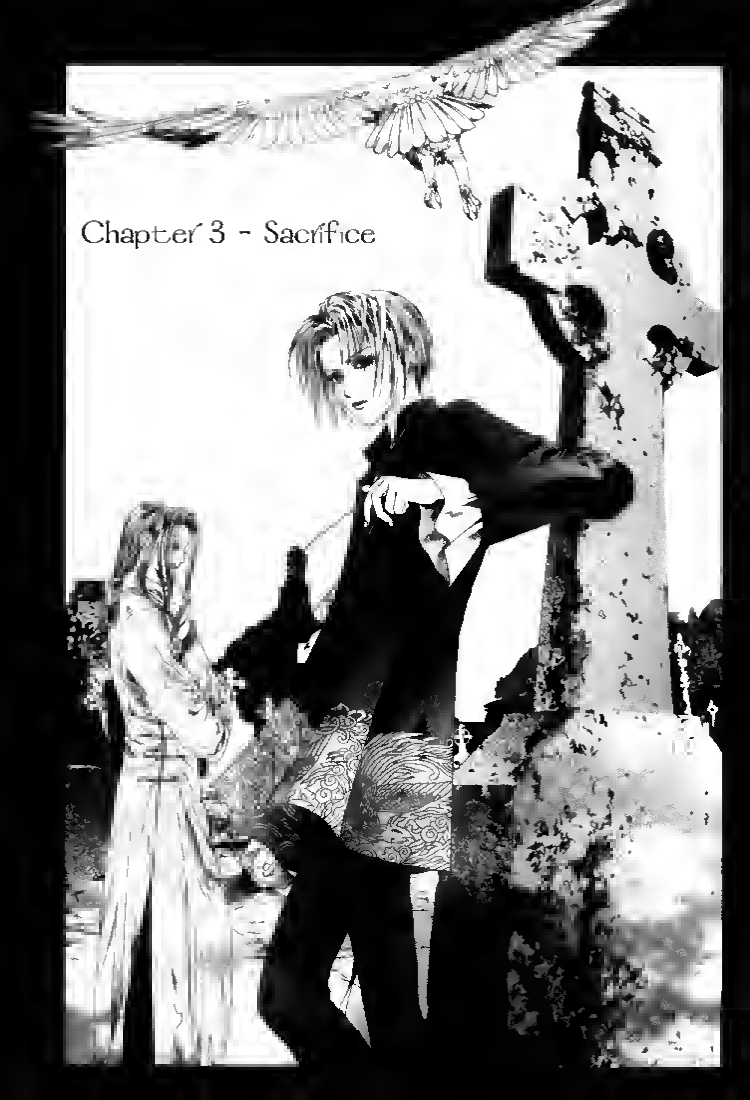
Chapter 3 - Sacrifice



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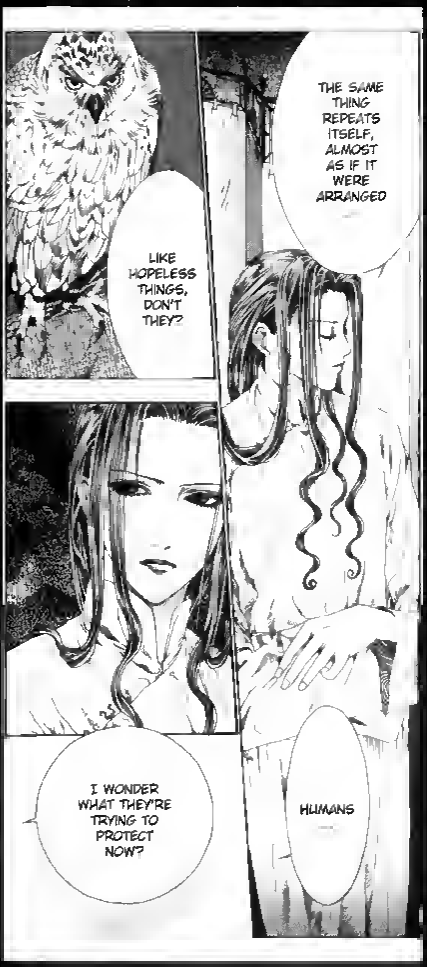
A MYSTERIOUS FESTIVAL IS READY TO BEGIN.
I WONDER WHAT SORT OF SOUL WILL BE THE SACRIFICE THIS TIME...?
PEOPLE WILL PAY A SACRIFICE.
FUU
AND SO, YET AGAIN ...

Translated by Jennifer Lillie (www.curiouser.nu)


THE SAME THING REPEATS ITSELF, ALMOST AS IF IT WERE ARRANGED
LIKE HOPELESS THINGS, DON'T THEY?
HUMANS
I WONDER WHAT THEY'RE TRYING TO PROTECT NOW?

EVEN THOUGH THEY'RE ALREADY DECAYING BEYOND RECOVERY

...NN...
AGAIN ...
CLI-I-INK...
Ah...
THE SAME DREAM...

IT'S BEEN THIS WAY EVER SINCE I MET THAT ALICHINO...
I CAN'T REMEMBER IT VERY WELL...
EVEN THOUGH I'M SUPPOSEDLY SEEING IT OVER AND OVER AGAIN

Constantly near humans, inducing them into committing crimes, never ceasing the temptation.
Most are outwardly beautiful and overflowing with charm, but their nature is of extreme ugliness.
If such compensation is paid, there are bewitchments able to grant an equal wish.
At whatever time...
While they don't realize it...

People are...

By Aichino

Invaded...

ENJU?
IS SOMEONE ...
GOOD MORNING, TSUGIRI.
WHY DO YOU HAVE TO BE HERE...?
....
I HEARD A STRANGE RUMOR, SO I JUST CAME TO TELL YOU
LATELY, IT SEEMS COUNTLESS CORPSES HAVE BEEN APPEARING IN THIS AREA

AND IF SO, TO WHAT END...
ALSO, PEOPLE WHO HAVE WITNESSED ALICHINO AND BEEN OFFERED CONTRACTS HAVE SUDDENLY BEGUN TO INCREASE, THEY SAY
COUNTLESS PEOPLE— IS THAT THEIR DOING?
WHAT HAPPENED !?

I TRIED TO DO SOMETHING CARELESS
YOUR WING ...
DON'T TOUCH IT!
TH-THUMP!
ENJU!
YOU WILL MOVE ME!
QUICKLY!
WHAT?

I'VE GOT A BAD FEELING.
THAT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN HER HURT
SOMETHING'S STRANGE...
YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO PUT IT LIKE THAT...

FROM EATING IT.
IT'S SUCH A PURE SOUL THAT I HAVE A HARD TIME RESTRAINING MYSELF
YOU UNDER-STAND, DON'T YOU?
FRANKLY, I DON'T LIKE BEING TOUCHED BY HIM.
TRUE.
BUT ...
OR SUCH A PRETTY WING WILL COME TO NOTHING.
LET'S AT LEAST WIPE OFF THE BLOOD...
TREAT-MENT ISN'T NEC-ESSARY.
WITH THIS MUCH, IT SHOULD HEAL SOON.
Scanned by Team Iscariote from #iscariote on irc.kewl.org

YOU'VE REALIZED IT, HAVEN'T YOU?
ZAZA
THAT TSUGIRI'S EXISTENCE HAS BEEN PER-CEIVED.
IT IS NO LONGER NECESSARY TO ALWAYS REMAIN IN THIS FORM
ZA.
ZAZA

I...
EARNESTLY PUSHED THE IDEA THAT TIME, SURELY
YOU DID, DID YOU?
Now you're playing innocent
I DOUBT THAT NEXT TIME THINGS WILL END LIKE THIS EVEN IF IT'S YOU
TRUE... FROM NOW ON, THINGS WILL BE DIFFICULT, WHAT WITH ALICHINO IN GENERAL COVETING TSUGIRI.
ARE YOU THAT WORRIED?

THANKS
THAT'S ENOUGH
YOU ARE STRONG
RUSTLE
AM I?
UNTIL THEY FADE AND ROT?
ARE YOU GOING TO KEEP THOSE THINGS CAREFULLY STOWED AWAY FOREVER?
BUT HE HAS THINGS HE MUST ACCOMPLISH
IN ANY CASE, YOU SURELY KNEW THINGS WOULD GET THIS WAY AND THAT IT WAS UNAVOIDABLE. AT LEAST I HAVE KNOWN IT, SINCE THE TIME HE WAS IN HIS MOTHER'S WOMB

I'M...
I JUST FIND OUR LIFESTYLE THESE DAYS STIFLING
NOT GOOD AT "PRETENDING TO BE HAPPY" LIKE YOU...
FLAP
FLAP FLAP
FLAP
FLAP

ENJU SAID NOT TO GO OUT WALKING ALONE...

HEY,
WAIT!
TAP

HEY
WHY DO YOU HATE ALICHINO SO MUCH?

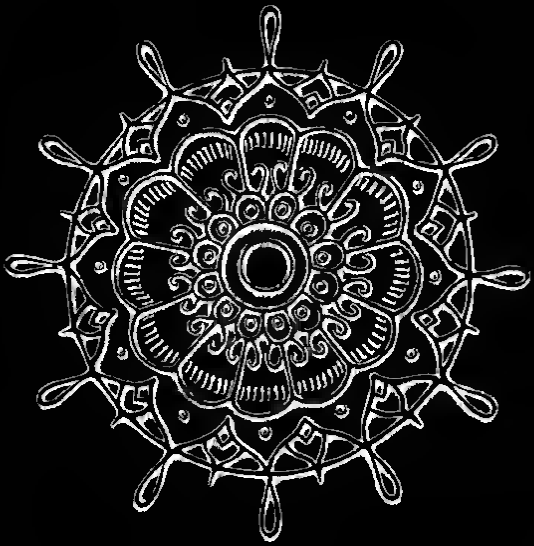
THE QUESTION OF WHETHER ALICHINO ARE ANYTHING LIKE "GOOD" IS ACADEMIC.
THERE ARE GOOD ALICHINO LIKE THAT OWL, AREN'T THERE?
I DON'T KNOW. BUT THIS W/S THE USUAL..
WHY...
IS SHE...
WITH...
ME?
MY BODY FEELS SLUG-GISH
YOU'RE TOGETHER WITH AN ALICHINO?
AND DESPITE THAT...
SINCE WHEN...?
THE THREE OF US...
IT'S ALWAYS BEEN WITH HER AND ENJU
UNTIL NOW

JUST NOW...
WHAT'S WRONG ?
SIGH
YOUR FACE LOOKS PA...
ZA...
WHY
AM I HERE ?
DON'T COME NEAR ME!!
!!
SLASH
WHAT'S WITH YOU!? SOMEONE WORRIES ABOUT YOU AND

UWA!!
.....
TSUGIRI
...!!
SFX <FALL>
...ZA...

THIS...
BLOOD SHINING ON CLEAR WHITE SKIN IS BEAUTIFUL
JIJI
DON'T FEAR I CAME TO SEE YOU, NOT THAT GIRL
AGAIN...
TO POSSESS YOU
HOW SHAMELESS
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

OUR SACRIFICE.
HOOOOOOOOOOOO...
WHY?
BECAUSE YOU ARE ...
HUMPH
HOOOOOOOOOOOO...



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第四章 楔の力

I SPOKE THAT WAY TO ENJU, BUT WITHOUT A DOUBT, MY RESILIENCE IS DE-CRE..SING.
THE WOUND WON'T CLOSE.
RUSTLE
PULL
.....
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME SOME-THING LIKE THIS HAS HAP-PENED.
PERHAPS ALL MY OTHER ABILITIES TOO

MangaProject.cjb.net and www.yuuwatase.org

SOME...
SOMEONE, HELP ME...
OF COURSE, THE CAUSE IS THAT I HAVEN'T HAD CONTACT WITH MASTER FOR A LONG TIME...
TSUGIRI IS...!!
THESE THOUGHTS ARE FROM THAT GIRL...
!!!
DAMN IT!
YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING!? AT A TIME LIKE THIS!?
THAT I WASN'T ABLE TO FEEL THE ENEMY'S PRESENCE...
IF ONLY MASTER WERE HERE..!
SACRIFICE...?

YES
THE DESTINY OF THOSE THAT WIELD "THE POWER OF THE BOND..."
HOOOO....
SOULS THAT WERE BORN FOR THE SOLE SAKE OF DYING...
HOOOO...
SHIVER
HOOOO...
INSIDE OF ME...
BECAUSE SOULS OF THE "BOND" ARE EXTREMELY PURE, TO AN ALICHINO
THEY BECOME FIRST-RATE FEASTS FOR RAISING THE RANK OF ONE'S ABILITIES
BUT ON THE OTHER HAND, WHY IS IT THAT I'M BEING SOUGHT AFTER...?
I UNDERSTAND THAT THERE ARE SIGNALS OF SOMETHING DANGEROUS.

SFX <RUSH OF POWER>
DISGUSTING. SO YOUR SCHEME IS TO TAKE IT EASY AND BECOME STRONG, HUH?
JUST BEING NEAR YOU IT'S AS IF MY POWERS ARE RISING!
YOUR SOUL'S
INEX-PRESSIBLY SWEET FRAGRANCE
HEHE
IS IMMEDIATELY LEAVING HERE.

!?
AS IF I'D LET THINGS GO YOUR WAY!
THIS SCENE... SOME TIME BEFORE...
!?
HAS THE SAME THING HAPPENED ...!?
YOU HAVE NO SUCH RIGHT TO CHOOSE, YOU KNOW...?
SWOOSH
TAKE UP THAT SWORD TSUGIRI
SFX: <THUNK>

Edited by Z!eH, from #MangaProject on irc.LinkIRC.net

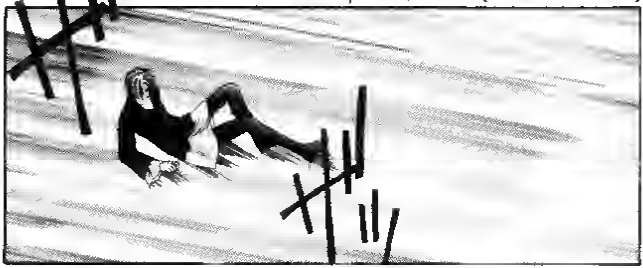
JUST BE OBEDIENT AND GIVE UP!
!!?
....!?
CHING...
HMPH
IS IT ALL RIGHT...?

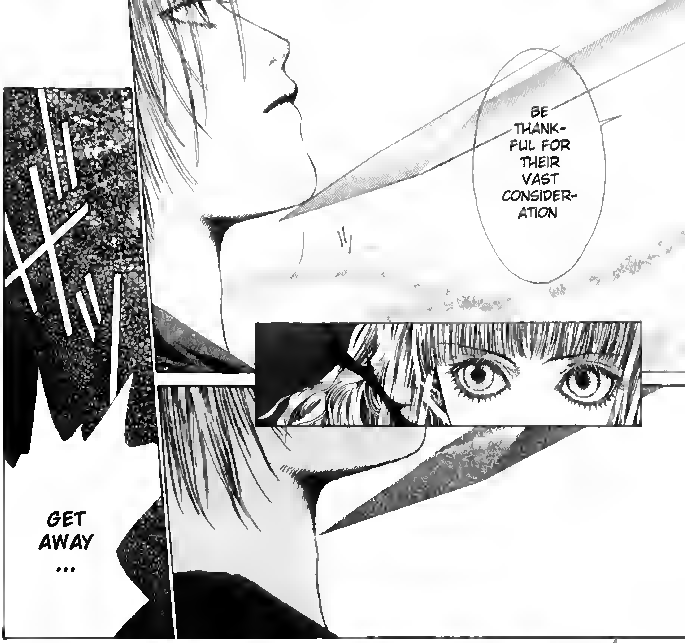
WHY DID EVERYONE DIE...
TIP
TIP...
AM I GOING TO DIE, TOO...?
THERE HE IS! KILL HIM!
THE INITIATOR OF THE CATASTROPHE!
WHAT A DELICIOUS LOOKING CHILD.
SHIT! HE'S GROWN THIS MUCH?
LET US EAT YOUR SOUL!
WHY DIDN'T HE COME?
HEHE...
HEHE...
...THE SMELL... OF BLOOD...
AND THIS TIME TOO, NOT A SINGLE PERSON WILL REACH OUT THEIR HANDS TO YOU.
SURROUNDING THE "BOND", DEATH ALWAYS DANGLES AFTER IT
IS IT ALL RIGHT FOR HUMANS TO DIE FOR YOUR SAKE AGAIN...?
YET AGAIN
THE SAME AS THAT TIME
...WHAT ARE YOU SAYING...!?

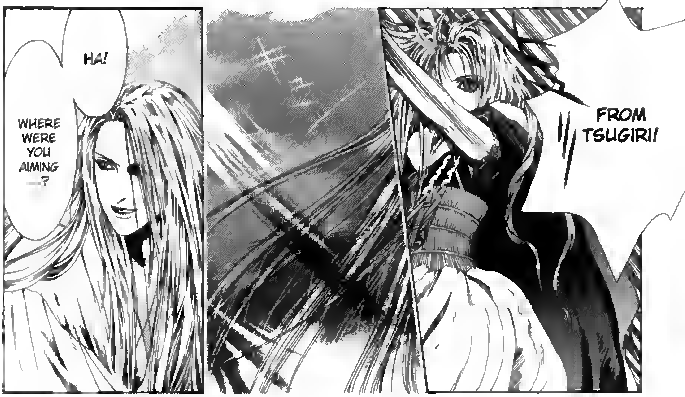
EVEN THOUGH I'M ALWAYS CALLING...!!
...AH ...?
YOU MUSTN'T BE DISTRACTED!!
SURELY YOU KNOW THAT BEST OF ALL, TSUGIRI ...!!
WHAT WAS THAT? THIS MEMORY

SFX <SLICE!?
!!

Translated by Jennifer Lillie (www.curiauser.nu)







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!!?
YO
SLIDE
WHAT ...!?

DRIP
DRIP
I TOLD YOU NOT TO COME BACK TO LIFE WITHOUT MY (PER-MISSION.
Y- YOU BASTARD...!

DON'T GO SELLING YOUR-SELF SHORT!
HEY YOU ...
RRIP
TSUGIRI!
AH? ARE YOU LISTENING?
WHO ...
ARE YOU ...?
RYOUKO!

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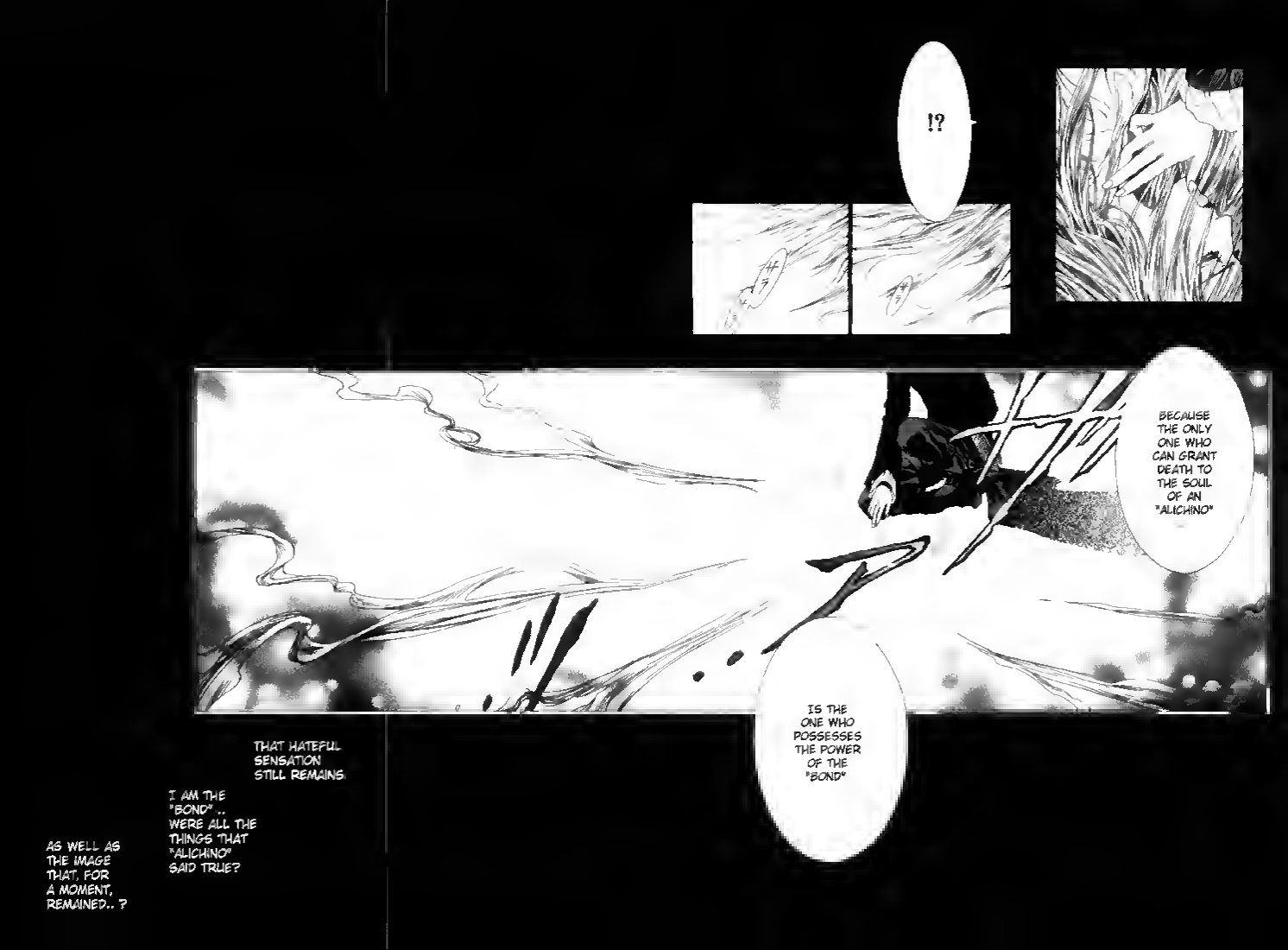
YOU LOOK HEALTHY
MYOUBI
WELL, THAT DOESN'T MATTER NOW
SUU.
YOU'RE LATE!
WHERE ON EARTH WERE YOU STRAYING TO!?
YOU
The wound is dis-appearing

IT'S THE FIRST TIME YOU'VE SEEN THIS FORM, ISN'T IT?
YES, IT'S ME.
AND HE IS...
ばさっ
MY MASTER, RYOUKO.
SMILE
BEEN A WHILE, HUH?

SQUEEZE
JUST WAIT.
WE'LL TALK LATER
I DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YOU.
MASTER OF AN ALICHINO?
FIRST, PUT AN END TO THIS ONE.
AND HE KNOWS ME...

NO.
IT'S ALREADY DEAD...
THESE ONES CAN REVIVE THEMSELVES ANY NUMBER OF TIMES AS LONG AS THEIR SOULS ARE LIVING
THAT DOESN'T MEAN HE'S DIED COMPLETELY. THIS IS THE DEATH OF THE BODY.
...WHY ME?
AS IT IS NOW WITH THE FLESH ROTTING, A TOUCH ALONE SHOULD DO IT.


!?
BECAUSE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN GRANT DEATH TO THE SOUL OF AN "ALICHINO"
IS THE ONE WHO POSSESSES THE POWER OF THE "BOND"
THAT HATEFUL SENSATION STILL REMAINS
I AM THE "BOND"... WERE ALL THE THINGS THAT "ALICHINO" SAID TRUE?
AS WELL AS THE IMAGE THAT, FOR A MOMENT, REMAINED.. ?

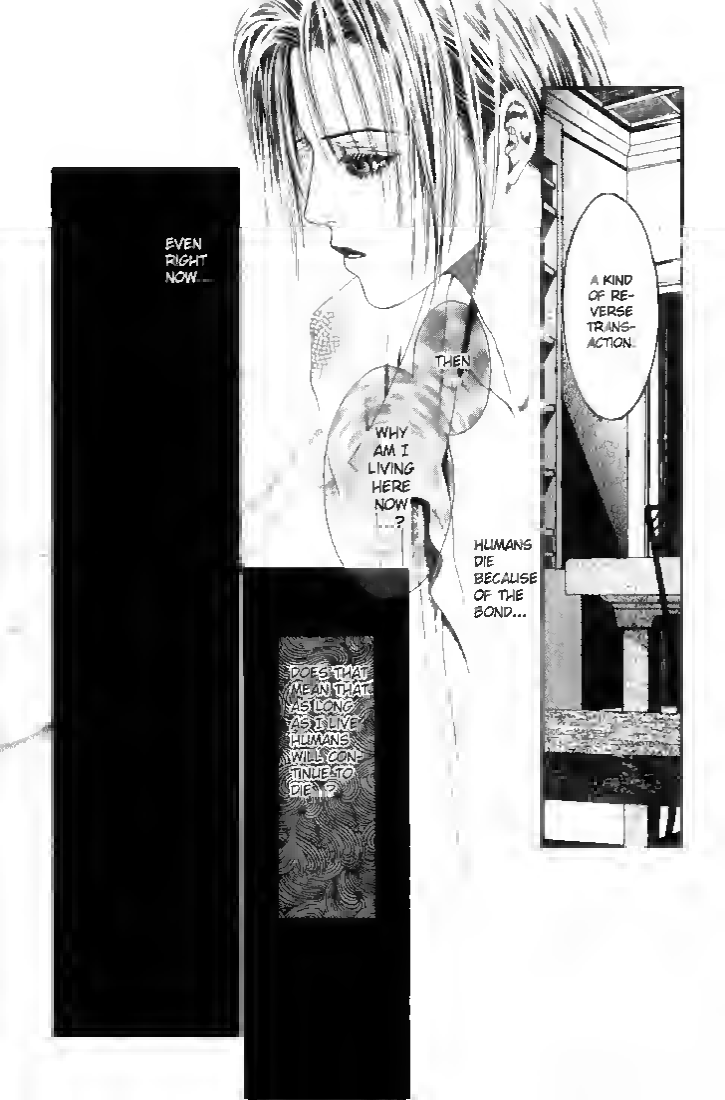
I REALLY DON'T UNDERSTAND THESE THINGS.
TSUGIRI.
AND THIS GUY... THE IDEA OF A MASTER OF ANIMALCHINO IS SUSPICIOUS INDEED.
WHAT'S THAT FACE YOU'RE MAKING?
Ar...on top of that, he's your familiar.

THERE'S NO NEED TO WORRY, TSUGIRI
RYOUKO IS AN OLD FRIEND OF MINE.

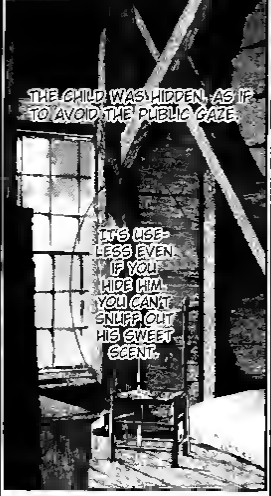
THIS PLACE REALLY CALMS ME DOWN... NOTHING'S CHANGED...
ASIDE FROM THE FACT THAT THE NUMBER OF ALICHINO IS INCREASING MORE THAN BEFORE
THE BOND IS A POPULAR THING ISN'T IT?
BUT THERE'S NO RIGHT ANSWER AS TO THE REASON FOR THE BOND'S EXISTENCE
I KNEW...
ENJU... YOU KNEW ABOUT THE BOND?
WHAT IS THE BOND?
THE ONLY THING I CAN SAY...
IS THAT THE BOND AND ALICHINO EXIST FOR EACH OTHER'S SAKE

ALICHINO BECOME STRONGER WHENEVER THEY HUNT A HUMAN SOUL.
AND AMONG THEM, SOULS OF THE BOND BRING THE HIGHEST GRADE OF ATTRACTIVENESS.
THEY ARE SAID TO BE THE MOST UNMINGLED AND ALLURING OF SOULS, SO MUCH SO THAT ALICHINO WILL RISK SUCH DANGER, EVEN AN ETERNAL DEATH...
BECAUSE OF THAT, BONDS ARE USUALLY KILLED AT THE TIME OF BIRTH...
AND BY THE HANDS OF HUMANS

IN OTHER WORDS...
SINCE OLD TIMES, WHEN CATASTROPHES OCCUR, AN EQUAL AMOUNT OF VICTIMS ARE PAID, AND IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN THE BALANCE OF LOSE AND GAINED, THE CUSTOM IS TO OFFER UP A SACRIFICE, ISN'T IT?
DO YOU KNOW WHY THAT IS?
BECAUSE OF THE BOND, OTHER HUMANS DIE...
HUMANS, PRESENT THE NEW-BORN BOND TO THE ALICHINO
BUT IN THE CASE OF THE BOND, IT'S THE OPPOSITE. IT A SACRIFICE IN ADVANCE IN ORDER TO PREVENT THE THING FROM HAPPENING.
THAT'S CORRECT!
IN ORDER TO GAIN A SOUL OF THE BOND, ALICHINO COMPETE WITH ONE ANOTHER THROUGH HUNTS (OVER-HUNTING OF HUMANS) AND ATTRACTION... THE REPEATED DESTRUCTION OF EACH OTHER, SO TO SPEAK
HUMANS FEAR THAT AND HOLD A RITE TO AVOID IT.


EVEN RIGHT NOW...
DOES THAT MEAN THAT AS LONG AS I LIVE HUMANS WILL CONTINUE TO DIE...?
HUMANS DIE BECAUSE OF THE BOND...
THEN...
WHY AM I LIVING HERE NOW...?
A KIND OF REVERSE TRANSACTION.

HE DOESN'T HAVE ANY MANNERS.
TSUGIRI IS A GOOD CHILD.
HE'S JUST POOR AT EXPRESSING HIMSELF.
WELL, I ENTRUSTED HIM TO ENJU, SO THERE'S NO NEED TO WORRY.
IF THERE'S A REASON TO REBEL, IT'S DEFINITELY YOU!
MY, HOW RUDE.
THERE'S A PROBLEM I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT FOR A LONG TIME.
A PROBLEM?



THERE WERE INDICATIONS THAT COUNTLESS ALICHINO WERE SECRETLY, BUT DEFINITELY, LURKING.

AND HIS MOTHER HAD BEEN TERRIBLY FRIGHTENED BY SOMETHING...

THAT LAUGHING FACIAL EXPRESSION WAS SO FULL OF HOPE THAT I THOUGHT I WAS OKAY TOO.

BUT EVEN SO, WHAT WERE THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THAT?

WHAT ON EARTH WAS GOING ON?
WHAT HAPPENED TO THAT HYUL A GUY...?
.....

WHAT WILL YOU DO, ASKING QUESTIONS WITHOUT ANSWERS?
THEY CALL THAT A WASTE OF TIME. DO YOU UNDER-STAND?
THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU.
BUT IT DOES.
ANYWAY, HOW IS IT? MY HUMAN APPEARANCE IS BEAU-TIFUL TOO, ISN'T IT?

BUT IT'S NO GOOD, YOU KNOW? I BELONG ONLY TO RYOUKO ♡
AND IN YOUR CASE ALL THE BAD PARTS OF YOUR PERSONALITY ARE SHOWING THROUGH IN YOUR FACIAL EXPRESSION
MY ISN'T THAT AN AWFUL THING TO SAY!?
THE OUTWARD APPEARANCE OF ALICHINO IS JUST MADE-UP ANYWAY RIGHT?
WELL IT DOES NOT MATTER
HERE GIVE ME YOUR HAND!
OF COURSE, RYOUKO ALSO BELONGS TO ME, SO DON'T MAKE ANY PASSES
PASSES
?
...WHAT? I THOUGHT YOU HATED BEING TOUCHED BY ME ..?
I HATE IT EVEN NOW, BUT...!

TEN YEARS AGO...
YOUR BODY AND MIND WERE BEGINNING TO DIE AND IN ORDER TO REPAIR THEM, I TOOK YOUR MEMORIES INTO MYSELF
DON'T YOU WANT THE MEMORY YOU LOST?
I'M SAYING IT'S ALL RIGHT FOR ME TO GIVE IT BACK TO YOU.
"GIVE IT BACK." WHAT DOES THAT MEAN...?
EVEN THE FACT THAT YOU WERE LIVING
BECAUSE AT THAT TIME, YOU WERE RENOUNCING EVERYTHING ABOUT YOURSELF.
THERE WAS NO OTHER WAY...
TSUGIRI
IF YOU WISH TO KNOW, TAKE MY HAND

IT'S FOR YOU TO CHOOSE.
JUST THE WAY YOU LIKE IT
CHOOSE?
IT'S NOT LIKE I'M BEING LED TO HER WAY OF THINKING IF I PRETEND TO BE CHOOSING MYSELF...
THAT'S AN ALICHINO'S TRICK
SHOULD YOU KNOW?

I...
OR WOULD YOU BE HAPPIER NOT KNOWING?
IT'S PROBABLY FULL OF VARIOUS MADNESS, BUT
I WANT TO KNOW.
THE ONE WHO WILL JUDGE THAT IS ME, PERSONALLY.
I HAVE TO KNOW.

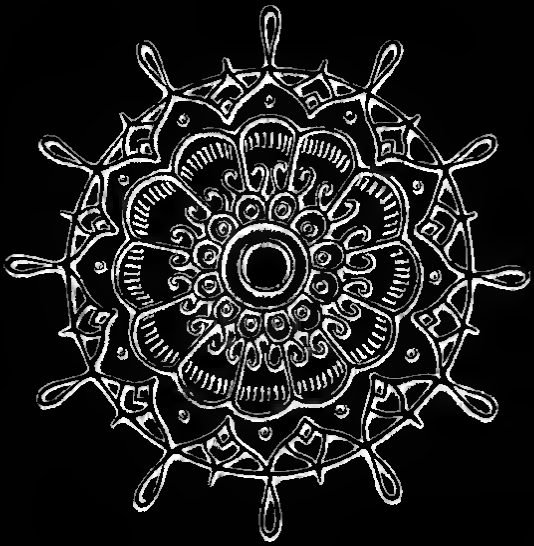
I WONDER IF HOPE IS PROPERLY INCLUDED?

IN THE PANDORA'S BOX YOU OPEN...

.. HEY, TSUGIRI

THIS IS...

MY WILL...



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Chapter 5 -
Awakening

ALWAYS...
ALWAYS...
ALWAYS THE SAME WORDS, THE SAME FRAGRANCE, ENVELOPS ME
...SEE THEY'RE COMING AGAIN

BUT MOTHER, WHEREVER I WAS, IT WAS THE SAME.
TSUGIRI, YOU CAN'T GO OUTSIDE.
YOU MUST NEVER LEAVE MOTHER ALONE.
THEY'LL FIND ME IMMEDIATELY ANYWAY. THE PEOPLE IN THE VILLAGE

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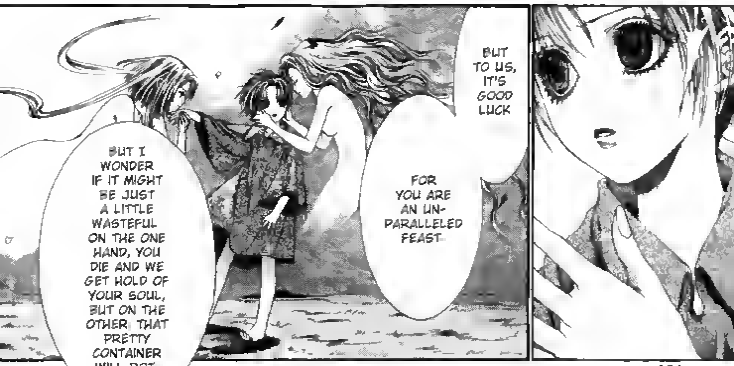
RUSTLE
YOU SAY YOU HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING BAD?
TO THE VILLAGERS, YOUR EXISTENCE IS A DISASTER!
EVEN THOUGH I HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING BAD...
THEY HATE ME...
TEE
HEE

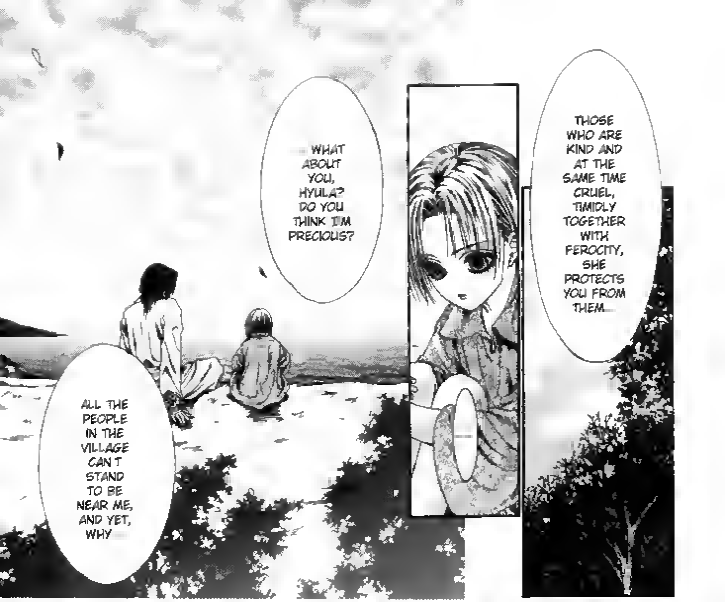

BUT I WONDER IF IT MIGHT BE JUST A LITTLE WASTEFUL ON THE ONE HAND, YOU DIE AND WE GET HOLD OF YOUR SOUL, BUT ON THE OTHER: THAT PRETTY CONTAINER WILL ROT
FOR YOU ARE AN UN-PARALLELED FEAST
BUT TO US, IT'S GOOD LUCK

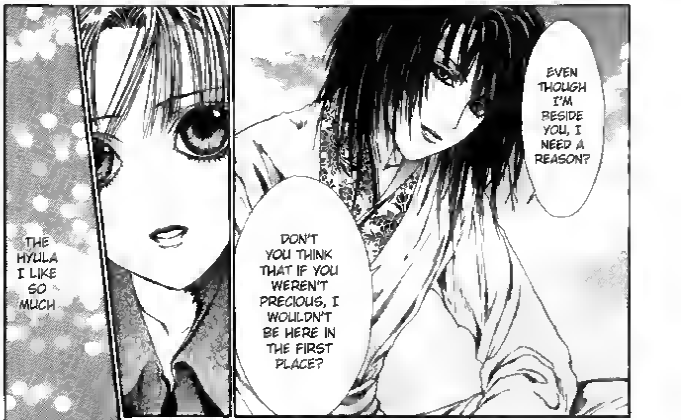
WAH!!
AND HYUL A ALSO
THAT'S A LIE THAT'S NOT TRUE!
STOP IT! GO AWAY!
I MUSTN'T LISTEN TO WHAT THEY SAY
HEE
HEE
HEE
AS IF I'D LISTEN TO ANYTHING
BE-CAUSE
THEY TAKE ADVAN-TAGE
OF THE WEAK-NESS IN PEOPLE'S HEARTS
SHALL I TEACH YOU SOME-THING GOOD?
MOTHER WOULD BE SAD!
DON'T COME NEAR ME!
YOU WERE BORN FOR THE SOLE SAKE OF DYING, SO YOU MUSTN'T STAY ALIVE, YOU KNOW.
AND ON TOP OF THAT, NO ONE HUMAN WOULD BE SAD IF YOU DIED. ON THE CONTRARY, EVERYONE WOULD BE REALLY HAPPY!!
AND ALSO ...
HEE
TSK
TSK TSK ...

TSU-GIRI.
JUST LIKE I THOUGHT, YOU'RE WONDER-FUL! ♡ THEY LEFT.
MORE IMPOR-TANTLY IS IT ALL RIGHT FOR YOU TO BE IN A PLACE LIKE THIS ...?
IF YOUR MOTHER KNEW YOU WERE GONE
SURELY SHE WOULD BE WORRIED FOR YOUR SAFETY.
HYULA!
SO YOU SNUCK OUT AGAIN IN SECRET, HUH?
YOU'RE A BAD CHILD.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT THOSE THINGS ARE... BUT BECAUSE I'M THERE, SHE GETS REALLY TIRED AND LOOKS LIKE SHE'S SUFFERING AN AWFUL LOT.
MOTHER'S ALWAYS SCARED OF SOMETHING. NOT JUST THEM, BUT OTHER DIFFERENT THINGS.
BUT IF HYULA'S HERE THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT, RIGHT?
AND
I ALWAYS THINK THAT THE TRUTH IS, IT'S PROBABLY BETTER FOR MOTHER IF I'M NOT AROUND.

TRANSLATOR'S NOTE <THE WORD I CHOSE TO MEAN "DESPERATE" HERE ALSO MEANS "INEVITABLE DEATH">


THOSE WHO ARE KIND AND AT THE SAME TIME CRUEL, TIMIDLY TOGETHER WITH FEROCITY, SHE PROTECTS YOU FROM THEM...
WHAT ABOUT YOU, HYULA? DO YOU THINK I'M PRECIOUS?
ALL THE PEOPLE IN THE VILLAGE CAN'T STAND TO BE NEAR ME, AND YET, WHY


EVEN THOUGH I'M BESIDE YOU, I NEED A REASON?
DON'T YOU THINK THAT IF YOU WEREN'T PRECIOUS, I WOULDN'T BE HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE?
THE HYULA I LIKE SO MUCH

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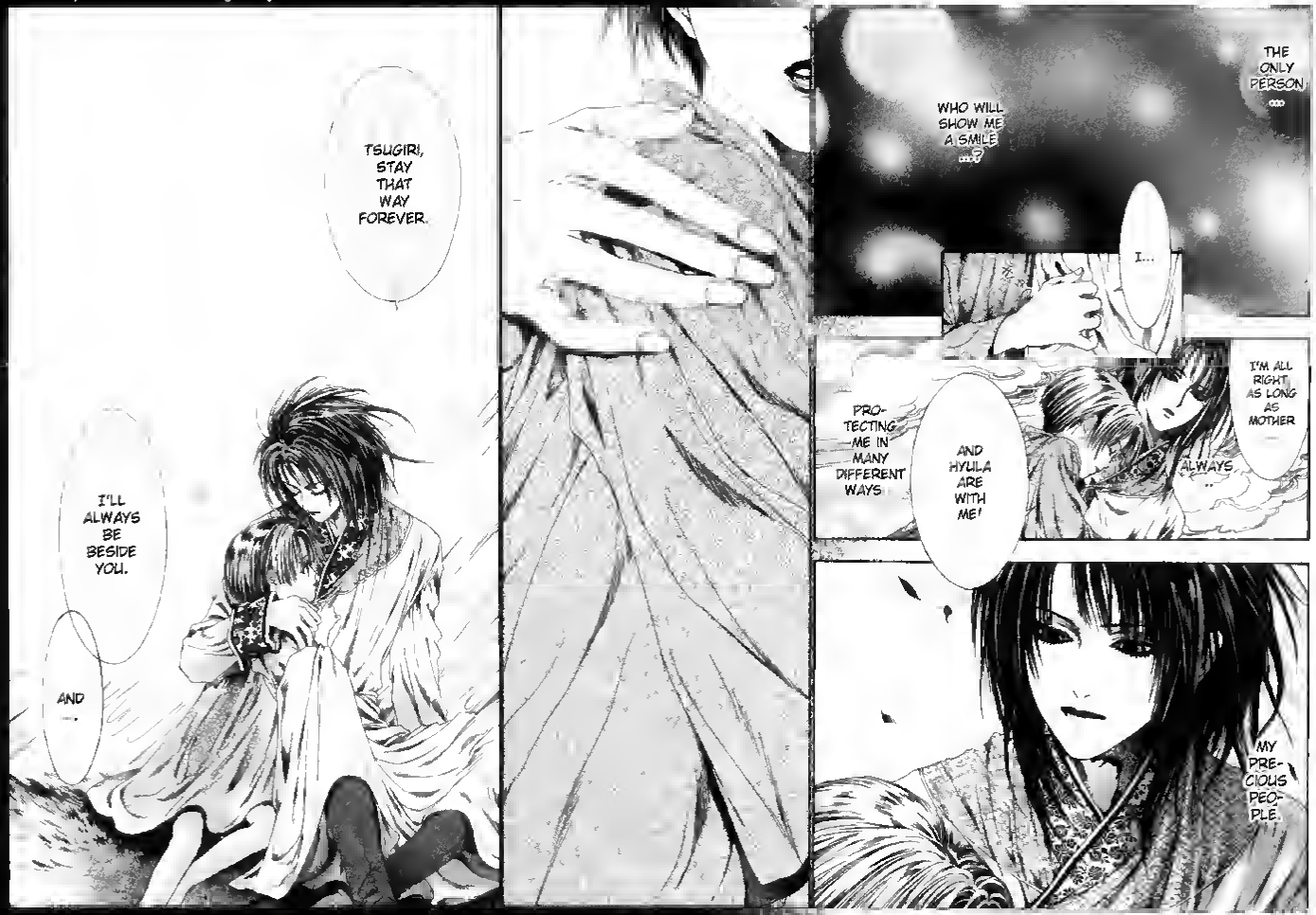
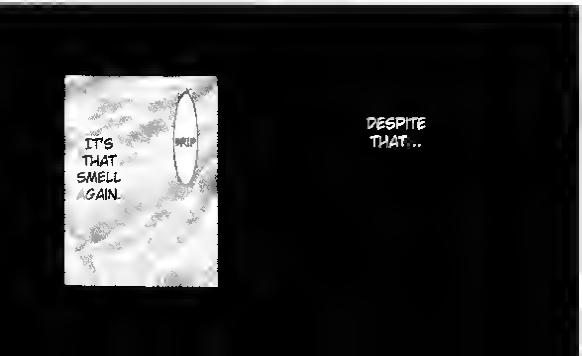

TSUGIRI, STAY THAT WAY FOREVER.
I'LL ALWAYS BE BESIDE YOU.
AND —.
WHO WILL SHOW ME A SMILE ...?
THE ONLY PERSON ...
I...
I'M ALL RIGHT AS LONG AS MOTHER ... ALWAYS ...
PRO-TECTING ME IN MANY DIFFERENT WAYS
AND HYULA ARE WITH ME!
MY PRE-CIOUS PEO-PLE.

AND QUICKLY
——…


DESPITE THAT…
IT'S THAT SMELL AGAIN.
WRIP

DRIP
DRIP
MOTHE
...?
THIS IS THE STENCH OF BLOOD...
THE F INT STINK OF DE TH...
...WHY?
...
SFX: <BAM!>

HE FINALLY MAKES EVEN HIS OWN MOTHER A VICTIM!
DIDN'T I TELL YOU!? WE SHOULD HAVE DEALT WITH HIM WHEN HE WAS BORN!
CATCH HIM!
KILL HIM!
BECAUSE OF HIM, HOW MANY PEOPLE DO YOU THINK HAVE DIED IN THE VILLAGE!?
ME...!?
HYULA!
WHERE ARE YOU!?
IT'S NOT TRUE, SOMEONE SAY IT'S NOT TRUE...
HAA
HAA
HAA
IS IT MY FAULT MOTHER DIED THAT WAY!?
MOTHER...
MOTHER'S BEEN...!

HYULA...

HELP ME...

THAT'S STRANGE....

NO ONE HAS EVER SHOWN ME ANYTHING BUT A FRIGHTENED FACE.

THEY'RE LAUGHING?

...I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT SORT OF THING.

Translated by Jennifer Lillie (www.curiouser.nu)

IF I DIE LIKE THIS...

AM I GOING TO DIE?

THAT WOULD BE NICE...

THAT TIME, YOU
WERE ON THE VERGE OF DEATH.

THE DREAM I CAN'T RECALL...
TSU-GIRI...?
HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I SEEN IT...?
MY HEAD...
HOW WAS IT? DID YOU FIND SOME-THING WONDER-FUL?
THAT WAS...
A GENTLE...
HEART-WRENCHING...
GRIEVING VOICE.
WHAT'S WRONG!?
ARE YOU HURT SOME-WHERE...?
HYUL-A HAS...

MYOUBI
SURELY YOU DIDN'T
ISN'T THAT SO, TSUGIRI?
IT'S JUST AS YOU'RE THINKING, ENJU.
BUT... IT'S SOMETHING TSUGIRI HIMSELF WISHED FOR.

THAT BOY CALLED TSUGIRI, WITHOUT A DOUBT, IS IN POSSESSION OF THE POWER OF THE BOND.
SO YOU'VE FINALLY FOUND HIM.
TSUGIRI
HALF OF THAT SOUL OF THE BOND IS ALREADY IN MY HANDS.
ROUSHOUKI-SAMA.

ALICHINO 1 / END

Hello, this is Kouyu Shurei. I'm finally done with my own book. It seems long, or the time it took seemed that way... The only thing left in my head to say is just that it gave me a really hard time. The truth is, for the afterward, I wanted to do something like an omake manga a sort of gag short or character introductions, but I didn't have enough time and gave up. It's all right if I draw it next time. Heartfelt gratitude to those who helped complete this work. And also to everyone who offered their support, thank you

Kouyu Shurei, November 1998

アリキーノ
ALICHINO

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2018年11月30日　第1刷発行
2022年5月10日　第6刷発行

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発行所
株式会社ホーム社
東京都千[illegible]
編集部

発売
株式会社集英社
[illegible]
書店[illegible]
販売[illegible]

印刷所
大日本印刷株式会社
Printed in Japan

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ISBN4-8342-6101-8　C9979

To be continued.

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